

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MADRID 06484 311914Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 /060 W  
-----003880 311922Z /46

O R 311825Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1561  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 6484

USEEC AND AMEMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT,SP  
SUBJ: ARREST OF SOCIALIST DEPUTY PRODUCES PARLIAMENTARY RHUBARB

SUMMARY: THE ARREST AND ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OF A PSOE  
DEPUTY IN SANTANDER ON AUGUST 27 HAS BALLOONED INTO A  
FULL-FLEDGED RHUBARB WITH PSOE (AND TO A LESSER EXTEN  
PCE) LEADERS TALKING OF THE RESIGNATION OF INTERIOR  
MINISTER MARTIN VLLA. END SUMMARY.

1. AS POLICE TELL THE STORY, AND AUTHORIZED DEMONSTRATION  
IN SANTANDER FOR REGIONAL AUTONOMY HAD ENDED ABOUT 2130  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MADRID 06484 311914Z

ON AUGUST 27 WHEN ONE INDIVIDUAL BEGAN WAVING A REPUBLICAN  
FLAG AND CHANTING, "TOMORROW SPAIN WILL BE REPUBLICAN".  
IN ATTEMPTING TO ARREST HIM, A POLICEMAN WAS SLIGHTLY  
INJURED. AT THIS POINT PSOE DEPUTY TO THE CORTES  
(PARLIAMENT) JAIME BLANCO GARCIA INTERVENED, ALLEGEDLY  
WITHOUT IDENTIFYING HIMSELF. AS A RESULT, HE AND  
SEVERAL COMPANIONS WERE TAKEN TO THE NEARBY POLICE

BARRACKS. THERE HE IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AND POLICE INFORMED THE LOCAL CIVIL GOVERNOR, WHO IMMEDIATELY ORDERED HIS SET FREE. BLANCO WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CHARGED WITH "INSULT AND AGGRESSION" AGAINST THE POLICE OFFICERS, WHILE HE IN TURN CHARGED THE POLICE WITH "AGGRESSION AND BAD TREATMENT".

2. AS SR. BLANCO TELLS IT, HE OBSERVED THE POLICE BEATING UP A YOUNG MAN IN THE STREET. HE APPROACHED, PROPERLY IDENTIFIED HIMSELF, BUT WAS HIMSELF BEATEN, INSULTED, AND ESCORTED TO THE POLICE BARRACKS. HE REPORTEDLY HAS BOTH BRUISES AND WITNESSES TO BACK HIM UP.

3. BLANCO'S STROY, IF TRUE, REPRESENTS A CLEAR VIOLATION OF PARILAMENTARY IMMUNITY. EVEN SOME UCD LEADERS ARE REPORTEDLY DISTURBED. A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE (ON ONE UCD AND ONE PSOE REPRESENTATIVE) HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE, AND IS NOW IN SANTANDER. PSOE SPOKESMAN ENRIQUE MUGICA HAS CALLED IN ADDITION FOR A PLENARY SESSION OF THE CORTES TO DEBATE THE ISSUE. INTERIOR MINISTER MARTIN VILLA, WHO IS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF THE POLICE, HAS MET WITH (GUTIERREZ MELLADO, FIRST VP AND ACTING PRIME MINISTER DURING SUZREZ'S EUROPEAN TRIP, TO EXPLAIN THE OCCURRENCE. CALLS HAVE ALREADY BEEN HEARD--ESPECIALLY FROM PSOE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MADRID 06484 311914Z

LEADERS--FOR MARTIN VILLA'S RESIGNATION IF THE CHARGES PROVE TURE. ON AUGUST 30 HE TOLD THE PRESS HE WAS PREPARED TO RESIGN "IF IT WERE NECESSARY" (WE DOUBT THAT HE MEANT, HIS COMMENT TO IMPLY HE WAS REALLY THINKING OF RESIGNING.)

4. THE POLICE VERSION MAY PROVE TRUE, BUT THEIR RECORD DOES NOT INSPIRE CONFIDENCE, ESPECIALLY IN NORTHERN SPAIN AND WHEN DEALING WITH PERSONS LOOKING LIKE DEPUTY BLANCO, WHO IS ONLY 33 AND SPORTS A HEAVY BEARD. FOR ITS PART, THE PSOE HAS LONG COMPLAINED, WITH SOME JUSTICE, THAT SOME POLICE ELEMENTS REMAIN AUTHORITARIAN, ANTI-LEFTIST, AND SOMETIMES VIOLENT. THE PRESIDENTS OF BOTH THE CORTES AND THE CONGRESS OF DEPUTIES HAVE ALREADY INVOLVED THEMSELVES DIRECTLY IN THE CASE, AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE SUBSEQUENT AIRING OF THIS AFFAIR IN PARLIAMENT MAY LEAD TO UPDATED AND BETTER DEFINED GROUND RULES WITH RESPECT TO PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY, AND TO JUST WHAT POINT A CORTES MEMBER CAN INVOLVE HIMSELF IN STREET DEMONSTRATIONS WITHOUT LOSING SUCH IMMUNITY.

5. PSOE LEADERS ARE APPARENTLY TRYING TO USE THIS CASE AS A

LEVER--OR A STICK IF YOU WILL--TO EXACERBATE WHAT THEY CONSIDER  
LATENT TERNSIONS WITHIN UCD AND TO SECURE THE DISMISSAL OF  
MARTIN VILLA, WHOM THEY IDENTIFY AS THE PRINCIPAL CULPRIT  
IN THE GOVERNMENT'S PRE-ELECTION EFFORTS TO  
FASHION A "MANAGEABLE" CENTER-LEFT THROUGH SUCH  
MEASURES AS THE LEGALIZATION OF THE PSOE "HSITORICAL"  
FACTION. IN THE PROCESS THEY WOULD HOPE TO RAISE THE  
LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS ABOUT THE CONTINUATION OF OLD  
PRACTICES BY PUBLIC ORDER FORCES AND TO FORCE A DEGREE  
OF POLICE REFORM.

6. DURING LUNCH WITH THE AMBASSADOR AUGUST 31,  
MINISTER IGNACIO CAMUNAS (RELATIONS WITH CORTES) DOWN-  
PLAYED THE WHOLE AFFIAR. HE NOTED THAT INASMUCH AS IT  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MADRID 06484 311914Z

WAS A FIRST CASE INVOLVING PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY OF THE  
NEWLY ELECTED CORTES, IT WAS CAUSING UNDUE EXCITEMENT  
IN THE PRESS. HE DOUBTED THERE WOULD BE ANYTHING AS  
DRAMATIC AS MARTIN VILLA'S RESINGATION, CONCLUDING THAT  
THE MATTER WAS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING WORKED OUT. HE  
ADMITTED GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING PROBLEMS IN GAINING FULL  
CONTROL OF PUBLIC ORDER FORCES. STABLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARRESTS, PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 31-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MADRID06484  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770315-0407  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MADRID  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977084/aaaaacun.tel  
**Line Count:** 143  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 3086fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1535239  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARREST OF SOCIALIST DEPUTY PRODUCES PARLIAMENTARY RHUBARB SUMMARY: THE ARREST AND ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OF A PSOE DEPUTY IN SANTANDER ON AUGUST 27 HAS BALLOONED INTO  
**TAGS:** PINT, SP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/3086fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009